

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-34 in the application. In a previous response, the Applicants amended Claim 29 to provide the correct antecedent basis.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that original dependent Claims 5 and 22 included allowable subject matter. In order to expedite issuance of the present application, the Applicants have amended independent Claims 1 and 18 with allowable subject matter to place Claims 1 and 18 and Claims dependent thereon in a condition for allowance. Additionally, the Applicants have canceled Claims 3, 5, 12-17, 20, 22 and 29-34 without prejudice or disclaimer and have amended Claims 9, 25 and 26 to correct informalities and provide the proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, Claims 1-2, 4, 6-11, 18-19, 21 and 23-28 are currently pending in the application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-11, 18-21 and 23-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-4, 6-11, 18-21 and 23-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,467,401 to Nagamitsu, *et al.* The Applicants, however, have amended independent Claims 1 and 12 with allowable subject matter to place these Claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the §103(a) rejection of pending Claims 1-2, 4, 6-11, 18-19, 21 and 23-28 and allow issuance thereof.

II. Rejection of Claims 5 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected Claims 5 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagamitsu in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,574,466 to Reed, *et al.* This rejection, however, is

now moot since dependent Claims 5 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this §103(a) rejection and allow issuance of the pending claims.

III. Rejection of Claims 12-17 and 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected Claims 12-17 and 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagamitsu in view of Reed. This rejection, however, is now moot since Claims 12-17 and 29-34 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this §103(a) rejection and allow issuance of the pending claims.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-2, 4, 6-11, 18-19, 21 and 23-28.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, credits or overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2395.

Respectfully submitted,

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